



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

UPDATE: PROJECT CEASEFIRE
KC FELON SENTENCED FOR POSSESSION OF FIREARM

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Kansas City, Mo., man was sentenced in federal court today for illegally possessing a firearm. Today's sentencing is part of Project Ceasefire, the district's ongoing anti-crime initiative.

Carlos D. Hermitt, 24, of Kansas City, was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Fernando J. Gaitan, Jr., this morning to three years and one month in federal prison without parole.

On Feb. 5, 2004, **Hermitt** pleaded guilty to being a felon in possession of a firearm. By pleading guilty, **Hermitt** admitted that he was in possession of a Sturm 9 mm pistol on Aug. 13, 2003. Under federal statutes, Graves explained, it is illegal for any felon to be in possession of any firearm or ammunition. **Hermitt** has a 1998 criminal felony conviction for delivery of a controlled substance.

Hermitt was originally charged in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury on Oct. 7, 2003, in Kansas City.

This case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Paul S. Becker. It was investigated by the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

Project Ceasefire

Project Ceasefire, launched in October 1999, is a cooperative initiative by federal and local law enforcement and the Kansas City Crime Commission that targets for federal prosecution persons who unlawfully use or possess firearms.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at
www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow